

# The Faith Communicator

March 08

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 9, Issue No 2



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9775 Hwy. 66, Longmont, CO 80504 - Services 8:30 AM & 11 AM Sun, 5:30 PM Sat - [www.fclc.org](http://www.fclc.org) - (303) 776-8771

## Entertaining an Angel?

Hebrews 13: 1-2 states: "Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." RSV

Did Faith Community do exactly that — entertain an angel without knowing it?

A very elderly gentleman had been away from churches for years. His wife had died, and he was lonesome, living all alone in the mountains overlooking Lyons. He had passed our church on the highway many times on his regular route, so he decided to just stop in one Sunday. When he saw so many little children, he asked our pastor if this was some special Sunday for them, and was told, "Oh, no, this is just how many children come to Sunday School each week." He loved little ones, and was very impressed. He'd never seen so many children at church!

He went in to our worship service and sat near the front, as he was nearly deaf. He was not dressed in clothes with designer labels, but in a corduroy sport coat that had seen its better days. He was a bit unshaven, but had the bluest eyes, with a twinkle in them like the proverbial Santa Claus. Folks seated around him greeted him, and he was touched by the friendliness, as he lived such an isolated life. He couldn't hear much of what they said to him, but the warmth reached him anyway. He came back week after week, driving his old maroon jeep down the rough, winding mountain road, rain or shine, snow or ice. He attended the adult Sunday School class, and often told us that Faith was his "family" and the

only one he had. He looked forward all week to his Sunday worship at Faith. On his 80th birthday, he was brought to tears as his friends at Faith surprised him with a birthday cake. No one had baked him a cake in ages! He asked us why we were so nice to him, just an old man.

Over the years, as his health failed, Faith members showed him that he truly was a part of our family. He desperately wanted to come down to church each Sunday. He could no longer drive, so Sunday after Sunday, members tackled that virtually impassable road to pick him up for services, and return him safely home. Whenever he was hospitalized, we watched over him, members and Pastor checking on him daily. He was so very appreciative. He often said he couldn't believe how kind folks were to him, an old man.

The Lord protected him, as one Sunday, when he was very weak, but insistent on coming to church, he fell. Where? Right on our church steps! Members took him to the hospital, stayed with him all day, waiting for x-ray reports, until he was settled in, and nurses taking care of him. After several extended hospital stays, and 24-hour nursing care at home, he finally was moved to a local nursing home, where Faith members could visit him. He was able to go back to his beloved home in the mountains one last time. On Easter Sunday, 2003, the Lord took his servant home. Our Pastor Dan said the timing was perfect.

After Hans Hansen's death, many of us were shocked to learn of his history. He had been born in Norway, of Danish parents, coming to the USA at age two. In 1917 Hans was working in Minneapolis as a



printer and bookbinder when World War II broke out. He enlisted in the Army and eventually came to Leadville, Colo., to train at a mountain troop-training center for skiers. Many Scandinavians and former Olympic skiers were in the troop, training on ridges back of the Continental Divide, at 12,000 feet. Later in the War he earned the European Service Medal and four Bronze Stars. He had been in the Battle of Normandy, fought on D-Day, and was wounded in action. He also served in northern France, the Ardennes, and Rhineland. Like so many veterans of our wars, Hans never told us of his military bravery and honors.

After the War, he owned the El Rancho Hansen Motel in Boulder, Colorado, the Concord Motel at Ft. Garland, Colo., and finally the famous Hotel Colorado, in Glenwood Springs from 1955-1962. After retiring he built his own large mountain retreat, which he loved.

Many of us assumed Hans was simply an elderly retired "mountain man" with very few financial resources. His old jalopy jeep and his clothes would give one that impression. Faith Community didn't measure him by his appearance, but welcomed him and treated him the same as we do anyone entering our church doors. Hans so needed us in his life. Some of the twinkle in those deep blue eyes of his no doubt came from knowing all along that when he died he planned to leave his entire estate to his "family at Faith." With this generous gift, we established our FCLC Endowment Fund; a gift that "keeps on giving" for various mission and ministry projects beyond the walls of our church. (For more information, see [www.fclc.org](http://www.fclc.org), click "About Us," then Endowment.)

Now do you think we entertained an angel unawares?

**Hans was my friend!** Someone has said, "Grief is the price you pay for love." We will indeed miss Hans but his memory will be with us forever.

I first met Hans years ago when he found our adult Bible class. The twinkle in his eyes seemed to draw me to him and we became good friends over the years. Of course, it helped that we both had lots of Danish blood in our ancestry!

Hans often laughed about the fact that in World War II he was sent to Colorado to train with the mountain troops. As is often the case in the military he eventually found himself in the infantry and on his way to Italy...without his skis! He was involved in many of the great battles in Europe, including the Normandy landing. Our Hans was a quiet hero who loved this country.

Hans and I both shared hearing problems and I would always try to keep us on the right page in class. He studied his Bible with great enthusiasm and his love of the Lord was something to behold.

About four years ago I returned to our class after many months, following brain surgery. Hans came quietly into the class, sat next to me, and placed his hand on my arm without saying a word. Now I have to share with you the fact that Scandinavian men would rarely consider doing this! His only words of comfort to me were, "I thought you were a goner!" I'll never forget that!

Several years ago I visited him often in the hospital in Boulder following his heart surgery. On one visit he seemed to be genuinely puzzling why the Lord was keeping him alive. I remember saying to him something to the effect that God must have something for him to do yet. The twinkle came back to his eyes as he said in a frail voice, "Well, I don't know what it could be... but if I find out I'll do it!"

Who among us will ever forget Hans driving into the parking lot in his old, battered maroon jeep? Rain, snow or shine he made the trip down from his beloved mountain home for the early service and Sunday school. He declared often that Faith Community was his family, and we tried to be a family to him. Thank God his fall took place right here on our front steps where we could care for him.

Yes, Hans loved his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and his quiet joy was contagious. I am proud to have had such a friend.

In I Samuel 2:30 God declared that those who know me, I will honor. Yes, Hans knew his Lord, and God will honor him.



**March 4**

Michael and LaRae Schaff – 20 years

**March 7**

Federico and Jeanne Ruiz – 21years

**March 8**

Lyle and Marilyn Luttrell – 43 years

**March 9**

Charles and Kirsten Herring – 17 years

**March 15**

Kevin and Michelle Hansen – 11 years

**March 17**

Mike and Gail Felton – 45 years

**March 18**

Peter and Mary Stewart – 2 years

**March 20**

Ed and Diane Broestl – 37 years

**March 23**

Joe and Audrey Audley – 23 years

**March 26**

Keith and Hanorah Anderson – 40 years  
Bill and Leslie Raymond – 8 years

**March 1**

Scott Bachman  
Becker Ell

**March 2**

Bill Baker  
Kirsten Gjelde-Bennett  
Lukas Mason

**March 3**

Libby Erie  
Jesse Uecker  
Joel Uecker

**March 4**

Anne Bauder  
Matt Enders

**March 6**

Lukas Sell

**March 7**

Irving Ringdahl  
Benjamin Kleiman

**March 8**

Victoria Ruiz  
Jacob Major  
Hayden Ell

**March 9**

Laurie Mora  
Lucas Brockman

**March 10**

Cindy Palm

**March 11**

Kathy Praska  
Ryan McDermid  
Dylan Schumacher

**March 12**

Ron Wormke  
Megan Bonds  
Sydney Wetterstrom

**March 13**

Paul Lerum

**March 14**

Alicia Stover  
Chloe Olson

**March 15**

Luke Demmel

**March 16**

Chris Goble  
Darlene Nivens

**March 17**

Patrick Cordes  
Meghan Jedrzejewski  
Shane Musfeldt

**March 18**

Craig Schumacher

**March 19**

Wayne Morrissey  
Brian Tway  
Joel Rothe

**March 20**

Warner Lien  
Jane Jurgensmeyer  
Jeff Riemenschneider  
Andrew Schroeder  
Kim Cullian  
Sarah Lerum  
Anna Knipscheer

**March 21**

Linda Parker  
Dana Gjelde  
Connor Magyar  
Logan Inskeep  
Zach Rinard

**March 22**

Mindy Gratny

**March 23**

KJ Parker

**March 24**

Brian Jordan  
Linda Lerum  
Tami Musfeldt  
Cody Howes

**March 25**

Stephanie Mason  
Shannon Vaughn  
Lexi Knutson

**March 27**

Chris Mueller  
Kevin Bachman

**March 29**

Jolene Nicoll

**March 30**

Jim Conradson  
Andrew Alm

**March 31**

Darlene Nehls  
Joshua Cogdill



# FCLC Christian Education News

## Sunday School 2nd Grade thoughts about Heaven:

Jesus said, "There are many rooms in my Father's house. . .I am going there to prepare a place for you." John 14:2

### ***What would you do on your first day in heaven?***

"I would look around."

"I would look around to see what is there. I think it might be a little boring there."

"I would get my brother the drum set he really wants."

"I would like to see what a real angel looks like."

### ***How do you get to heaven?***

"Jesus takes you there."

"You have to believe in Jesus to get there."



## **Easter Extravaganza**

**Sunday School on March 23, 9:15-10:15 am**

If you are 3 years old through fifth grade, come join us in Room 126 during the 9:15 AM church service, for this mighty special event on Easter Sunday! Hear the Easter story! Create a unique Easter craft! Make an Easter snack!

## **Mark your Calendars now! Confirmation Planning Meeting**

Sunday, March 16, 12:15 pm, Sunrise room. All 8th graders AND their parents should plan on attending this one-time planning meeting for Confirmation Weekend (May 3-4). Now's the time to give input and get your questions answered regarding the format of faith statements, confirmation questioning and worship service details. Confirmation robe measurements will also take place at this time.

## Summer of Gifts Summer Sunday School needs YOU!

Yes, it is only March. . .but plans are already in the works for the Third Annual Summer of Gifts Summer Sunday School. But we need YOU! Do you have a hobby, special talent or occupation, that you would be willing to teach/share with others (of any age group) for one hour, one Sunday morning during June, July or August? You pick the topic. You pick the class size and age group. You pick the Sunday. We will help you tie it back to the Bible. Last year we were able to offer 72 classes because of some amazing volunteers! Please contact Nanette at [nanette@fclc.org](mailto:nanette@fclc.org) by April 15, to volunteer.



**Buy your GROCERY CERTIFICATES in March  
and support Christian Education!**

For every \$10 in grocery certificates purchased, you will receive a BIBLE BUCK! No kids to share your bucks? We're sure you can find a child who would LOVE some additional Bible Bucks. . .then again, no one ever said shopping at the Bible Bucks store is just for kids! Next BIBLE BUCKS STORE DATES: Easter Sunday-March 23, 10:30-11 am, Room 103.

**Christian Education Dates to Remember**

**Check the online calendar link at [www.fclc.org](http://www.fclc.org) for up-to-date information and weekly Bible study opportunities!**

<b>March 2</b>	6:00-7:30 pm	New Member Orientation, Session #1
<b>March 8</b>	10:00-11:00 am	Sunday School Workshop Leaders' Training
<b>March 9</b>	9:45-10:45 am	New Member Orientation, Session #2 (Luncheon at 12:15)
<b>March 16</b>	12:15-1:00 pm	Confirmation Planning Mtg. (8th graders & parents)
<b>March 23</b>	<b>9:15-10:15 am</b>	<b>Easter Extravaganza Sunday School (Ages 3-5th grade)</b>
<b>March 30</b>	<b>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Spring Break)</b>	
<b>April 2</b>	<b>NO CONFIRMATION (Spring Break)</b>	

**GOT QUESTIONS?**

Director of Christian Education: Nanette Goings, [nanette@fclc.org](mailto:nanette@fclc.org)  
Christian Education Chairperson: Mary Konicek, [marylarrykids@aol.com](mailto:marylarrykids@aol.com)

**Sunday School Attendance**

Attendance

	<b><u>Jan-08</u></b>	<b><u>Jan-07</u></b>
1st Sunday	172	209
2nd Sunday	187	153
3rd Sunday	170	207
4th Sunday	235	209



# Outreach News

## **Outreach Focus for March**

The month of March is designated to focus on the Shelters available to those in need in our community. Below is a list of the shelters that FCLC Outreach supports. In addition to these shelters, there are currently two emergency shelters in Longmont, COrES and OUR Center, that open their doors to the homeless on those wet/cold nights. ***All of these organizations are in much need of volunteers.*** To donate your time, please visit their website for contact info.

Atwood Shelter:

<http://bcn.boulder.co.us/housing/efa.html>

Inn Between:

<http://bcn.boulder.co.us/housing/innbetween>

Mountain State Children's Home: [www.msich.org](http://www.msich.org)

Safe Shelter: [www.safeshelterofstvrain.org](http://www.safeshelterofstvrain.org)

Emergency Shelters:

The Christian Outreach Emergency Shelter (CORES) has been providing shelter to the homeless since March 2007. More information can be found on their website: <http://longmontchristianshelters.org>. This organization currently has four different churches signed up to be a host site on a rotating basis. So far this winter, they have been open over 60 nights and have reached out to shelter over 140 people, averaging 17 people each night.

The OUR Center's "Warming Center" started providing emergency shelter in December 2007. They can host up to 97 people in the OUR Center Hospitality Center. Their website is: [www.ourcenter.org/day\\_shelter.html](http://www.ourcenter.org/day_shelter.html). So far this winter, they have been open over 20 nights and have sheltered over 40 different people with an average of 7 people each night.

## **"Undie Sunday" is Here! Sunday, March 30**

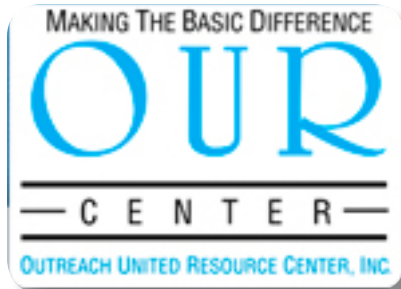


One of the most desired items in the shelters is new underwear and socks. FCLC Outreach will be collecting these items at our Annual "Undie Sunday" on March 30. Last year we collected over 900 pairs of underwear! We hope to have the same response this year. Please drop-off new underwear in the "Outreach Corner" (SW Corner of the Narthex) anytime during March. Donations will be made to Inn Between and Mountain State Children's Home.

## **Community Food Share "Hunger Hurts The Whole Community" Food Drive – March 12-25**

The Community Food Share is the food bank that serves all of Boulder and Broomfield counties. They are responsible for distributing food to over 60 human service agencies (like the OUR Center) so that they have food to give their clients in need. Please visit their website for more information: [www.communityfoodshare.org](http://www.communityfoodshare.org). They are currently in desperate need of volunteers to help with their food drive on March 12-25. Greeters are needed to help promote food donations at the entrance of each of the major grocery stores in the area. If you're able to help in any way, please contact Sue Ericson at [sericson@communityfoodshare.org](mailto:sericson@communityfoodshare.org) (or 303.652.3663 x202)

**"Foothills of the Rockies" Work camp** is coming to Longmont THIS Summer! FCLC is co-sponsoring this event for July 20-26 and July 27-Aug. 2. We need lots of help to make this a success. Please contact Marcie Mason ([mllmason@mindspring.com](mailto:mllmason@mindspring.com)) if you can help or if you have ideas on worksites.



**OUR Center Benefit Dinner**  
**Feeding the Hungry in our Community**  
**Saturday, March 15**

The OUR Center's 5th Annual "Empty Bowl" Dinner will be held at Longmont High School on Saturday, March 15 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Get your tickets (\$17 each) now by contacting Elaine Klotz at the OUR Center ([Elaine@ourcenter.org](mailto:Elaine@ourcenter.org) or 303.772.5529). Last year all 900 tickets were sold out during pre-sales, so act soon! Money raised goes directly to the OUR Center for all of its amazing programs. Soup will be served starting at 11 a.m. and a silent auction will be held during this time. Don't forget to select your take-home hand-made bowl to have as a reminder of the hunger in our community! More information can be found at: [www.ourcenter.org/events.html](http://www.ourcenter.org/events.html). Volunteers are also needed for this event to help with setup/serving/cleanup. Please contact Elaine if you can help. Other opportunities are to donate a hand-made or hand-painted bowl for this event. If you'd like to paint a bowl to be donated, please contact Crackpots Pottery Studio ([www.ecrackpots.com](http://www.ecrackpots.com) or 303.776.2211).



**Habitat for Humanity News**

Habitat for Humanity Lunch – Saturday, March 29  
 We need A LOT of help (over 20 volunteers!) to make this project a success. FCLC Outreach will be providing lunch to the workers of Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, March 29 at 11:15 a.m. Volunteers are needed to pre-make the food (hearty soup, salad, bread, & dessert) as well as serve the meal from 11:15 am until 1 pm. If you're able to help with this project, please contact Veta Hartman ([hartmanv@comcast.net](mailto:hartmanv@comcast.net)). The current worksite is in their NEW location in NE Longmont in the Shadowgrass Park Development near 17th Ave & County Line Rd (1614 Otis).

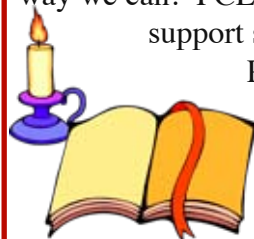


**A BIG Thank You**  
 goes out to all those who spent the day painting at the Habitat for Humanity worksite on Saturday, February 23.

Also, thank you to all those who volunteered serving lunch at the OUR Center on that same day. FCLC has an incredible group of volunteers and these projects wouldn't be successful without their commitment to giving back to the community and reaching out to those in need. **Thank YOU!**

**Seminary Scholarship Fund**

Are you considering serving the Lord by going into the Seminary? We want to support you in any way we can! FCLC Outreach has a fund setup to support students attending Seminary.



Please contact the Outreach Committee ([outreach@fclc.org](mailto:outreach@fclc.org)) if you're interested in the application process for tuition reimbursement

# Fellowship Happenings...

## **Soup Suppers -**

### **Get ready for some super soups!**

Dinner will be served between 5:15 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Our schedule of soups for the final two weeks follows:

March 5: Chili and Chicken Noodle  
March 12: Beef Stew and Minestrone

As usual, we are serving grilled cheese or quesadillas, fruit, and salad/vegetables each week. Pricing will be \$4 for ages 16+, \$2 for ages 5-11, \$1 for ages 3-10. Come enjoy some good food and fellowship either before or after one of the beautiful Lenten services.



## **Small jobs -**

We've all heard the saying "many hands make light work". Well, that's the direction we'd like to see our church fellowship take. If you could help us with "just one thing" during the course of the

entire year, we could offer a lot of small, but different fellowship opportunities. Like what, you ask? How about securing a block of tickets to Eagles/Rage Hockey, the Rockies, or to Christian music concerts, or the theater? What about organizing a bowling night at Centennial Lanes? What other ideas do you have?

## **Seder Meal -**

Once again, Wayne Hubert will lead a team of volunteers to provide a delicious Seder Dinner, Thursday, March 20. Look for ticket sales starting mid-February. Seating is limited so you will want to obtain your tickets early. This is always a sold-out meal!



## **Seder Helpers -**

Wayne keeps us laughing in the kitchen and all of us who help with the Seder Meal have a great time! If you can join us for between one to six hours to help, please contact Sally Meier at [sallyjmeier@yahoo.com](mailto:sallyjmeier@yahoo.com) or 303-938-8680. We'll provide a great lunch for you, too!

**Come join us -** The Fellowship committee meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7 pm – 8 pm. We'd love to hear your ideas!

## **Progressive Dinner-**

1. Saturday, April 19 - Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Progressive Dinner. We'll start with appetizers at church, and then divide up into groups for dinner and for dessert. What a great way to get to know others better and to enjoy some good food and fun! Look to sign up for this event starting in March.

# FLY. Pages

(Faith Lutheran Youth)

March 2008



by Diane Sell

## Youth Director Position

Plans are underway for hiring a new Youth Director here at FCLC. The Youth Committee spent January and February reviewing the job description, and assessing the top priorities they want a future YD to have in ministry. In February, the committee put together a list of interviewing questions for the upcoming interviews! They have been busy.

The job description for this full-time position is on the Youth Board. If any of you know of someone who might be interested in this, please encourage her/him to send his or her resumes to the church and put attention "interviewing committee." We will be collecting resumes from Feb. 17 through the end of March, and interviewing candidates in April and early May. Please keep the youth and this committee in your thoughts and prayers as we seek to do God's will and as we look forward to the individual God leads to this place!

Although the Youth Committee has done some of the initial "leg work" on this, an interviewing committee has been established and the names are listed below:

- † Doug Inskeep – Council Rep for Youth
- † Diane Sell – Current interim YD
- † Federico Ruiz – Human Resource Rep
- † Sililo Woo Ching –FCLC Workcamp director/Youth Committee member
- † Kaydene Hubert – Parent/member at large
- † Kendall Lind 11th grade
- † Nathan Schemmel 10th grade
- † Graham Harms 9th grade
- † Chloe Storaci 8th grade

Our **Workcamp** meeting has been scheduled for Sunday March 2 at 12:15pm. Ongoing fundraising opportunities, updates on the trip and accounts will be our focus! If you are unable to make this meeting, please see Sililo Woo Ching. Diane will be ordering pizza and drinks so please bring \$3 to help defray the cost of lunch!

As our time gets closer we really need you to be present at these meetings so you know what is going on!

## Middle School Event! You asked for it! You got it! BOWLING FOR JESUS it is!

- † When: Saturday March 8
- † Time: 12:15pm- 3:15pm
- † Where: Centennial Lanes in Longmont.

Please meet at church and we will caravan over to the lanes! Sign up is on the Youth Board now. Please sign up any friends that you are planning to invite. Your cost includes: shoes and three games. Any food you want to purchase will be extra! Now, wouldn't it be great to go bowling and have people sponsor you for each pin you knock down and have that money go to wipe out world hunger? That would be awesome! Look for more details on the Youth Board!





# On the Books in the Library

**Just in case you wondered:** Items borrowed from

Faith Library in 2007 totaled 1,957 books and media. This total does not include frequent use and reading of books in the library on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, especially by children waiting for other members of the family to be ready to go home ... and the frequent quick borrowing of a book or VCR for a Sunday school class, etc. The library is being used!! For comparison, circulation in 2006 was 1,573.

**Gifts** have flooded the library [and consequently my home office] recently, especially with a very large donation from a family in the process of moving. We'll continue to catalog and process these books for our library over the next few weeks in addition to our new purchases and the additions that come via Nanette Goings's reviews of children's books for the CSLA bimonthly *Congregational Libraries Today*. Our young readers benefit greatly from the flow of review copies ... and they often get the new books before they are reviewed elsewhere.

**Pastor Emily Cardin**, as a part of her ministry at the women's prison and with the aid of volunteers is creating a religious library for the inmates. Many gifts that duplicate our library holdings are passed on to that budding library. Christian fiction books are especially popular and we've sent a large number of these and other Christian books to Pastor Cardin.



**What does a librarian love as much as more books?** You're absolutely correct! More bookshelves! Visit the Reading Room and admire the new shelves under the windows, created by Marv Heimbichner as part of a memorial to Thelma Olsen who loved books as much as a librarian, we've been told. The new shelves make a great space for the Reference collection.

## An easy way to spot the teen/youth collection?

Look for bright orange stars on the books sharing the new bookshelves ... It's a 'stellar' batch of books.

## What's



## New?????

**MONDAY NIGHT JIHAD** by Jason Elam and Steve Yohn.

Combine a first-rate spy thriller with the intrigue of professional sports. Add a recommendation by Tony Dungy. Start reading.

**SYMPHONY OF SECRETS** by Sharon Hinck.

Talented flutist Amy Johnson's dreams come true when she wins a spot with the Minneapolis Symphony but it's had to concentrate on the notes when she sees devious motives behind her fellow musicians' many mishaps.

**MIDLIFE MANUAL FOR MEN: Finding Significance in the Second Half** by Stephen

Arterburn and John Shore.

"It happens to everyone fortunate enough to live long enough."

**Proverbs for insects and kids???** Bribe your kids to share with you the fun in

**TALE OF THE POISONOUS YUCK BUGS, BREAKING OUT OF THE BUNGLE BIRD, or**

**THE NINETEENTH OF MAQUERK** by Aaron Reynolds.

Being lazy might mean missing your butterfly-ification! Not listening to your friend can mean a bad end if you happen to be swallowed by a very large bird! And those poisonous "yuck" bugs nearly poisoned each other with the "yuck" words they threw and only were saved by the "watch-what-you-utterfly" [who only flies twice every year].

# Stewardship Education

Susan Moller

Director of Business Administration

Last month, we began publishing this Stewardship Education column by taking a look at the introduction and first chapter of Mark Allan Powell's book, *Giving to God: The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous Life*. In this first chapter, it was explained, "faithful stewardship involves giving to God as an act of worship. We give out of glad and generous hearts as an expression of love and devotion to the God who is so good to us" (p. 5).

This month, I will give you a synopsis of Powell's second chapter: Giving to God as an expression of our faith. "We confess that all we are and everything we have belongs to God and we put this faith into action when we offer ourselves and our possessions to God to be used as God sees fit. When we do this we discover the practical value of our faith: the God who creates, redeems and sustains us is ready and willing to rule our lives and provide us with everything we need to be content" (p. 5, 6).

## **A High Privilege**

First of all, "Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God" (p. 30). God has given us the high privilege of being stewards on this earth. We have a choice of what kind of stewards we are going to be, faithful or unfaithful. He gives us the opportunity to express our faith by how we choose to bring about His purposes with all that He has entrusted to us.

## **God Our Creator**

Secondly, "the Bible teaches that everything belongs to God for one simple reason: God created everything—including us. Psalm

100:3 says it nicely: Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us, and we are His" (p. 31). What an honor we have in that we are the ones that are given the privilege to care for all of His creation!

## **God Our Redeemer**

Not only did God create us, but He "redeemed us from bondage, delivered us from the devil, freed us from sin and death so that...we might belong to God, live in God's kingdom, thrive and prosper under God's providential care" (p. 34). To me, that is such a comforting thought, that when I belong to Him, I am under His care.

## **God Our Sustainer**

God also sustains us in our weakness, and strengthens us when we are weary. Faith in God as our Sustainer translates into a single word: trust (p. 39, 40). We can trust God and know that He will provide for our needs and gift us with contentment with whatever we have.

So, how can we express our faith when it comes to stewardship? In his conclusion, Powell states that being a faithful steward does not necessarily mean being a person who is a major donor, or being reluctant to spend money on his or her pleasures. Instead he says that a faithful steward is someone who (1) understands and is grateful that this world is God's creation; (2) knows God cares and is ready and willing to rule his life; and (3) trusts God to provide (p. 44). When we believe who God is, what He does for us, and that we belong to Him, our response will be to express our faith by being stewards for Him.

# VIA DE CRISTO OF THE ROCKIES

"... But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ..."

*Ephesians 4:7, 11-12*

Lutheran Via de Cristo is patterned on Jesus' own example. He searched out and called a small group of potential leaders; He trained them by word and example and inspired them with a vision; He linked them together and sent them out into the world to bring the world to Him.

Lutheran Via de Cristo's purpose is to help Lutherans understand their individual callings to be Christian Leaders. The leadership may be exercised in work situations, in the family and social life, in leisure activities, and within the Church environment. Leadership, in Via de Cristo, does not mean power over others, but influence on others; all of us need to be aware that we can exert a *positive* influence on those around us.

## What is Via de Cristo?

Literally meaning "way of Christ", Via de Cristo is a short course in Christianity that is designed to provide Lutherans with a significant foundation for individual and community spiritual growth. Grace and Growth are combined in an exciting and energetic way. At the Via de Cristo the participants become increasingly aware that they are a part of a community abounding in God's grace. The three days are a triple encounter: with Christ; with Christian brothers and sisters; and with a Christian community.

## History of Via de Cristo

Via de Cristo originated as the Roman Catholic Cursillo movement which began in Spain in 1948 and moved to America in the late 50's. The first Lutheran-sponsored Cursillos (the early name for Via de Cristo) were held in Miami, Florida in 1971. In addition to the Roman Catholic and Lutheran

movements there are similar expressions in the Methodist, Reformed, Episcopal, Presbyterian, and other Christian churches. Today, more than 2 million Christians in 50 nations have attended a "Cursillo" weekend.

## Format of The Weekend

The Via de Cristo weekend is an experience in Christian sharing and living. During the 72-hours, fourteen talks will be presented: Five talks are given by *Lutheran pastors* and nine by lay people. A final talk is given on sponsorship by the lay director. The weekend also includes chapel each morning, communion, small group discussions, sharing, music, singing, laughter, and prayer. The fourteen talks are discussed by the participants and will include a Lutheran perspective on the following subjects:

- Ideal
- Grace
- Lay People in the Church
- Importance of Study
- A Day in the Life of a Christian
- Apostolic Action
- Obstacles to a Life in Grace
- Christian Actions in the Community

Each of the talks deals with living one's life in God's grace.

## Who Goes To Via de Cristo?

Via de Cristo is not designed to convert anyone to Christianity. It is meant for those who are already faithful and committed to Christ and His church. Once again, the goal of Via de Cristo is to encourage Christians in their lives of faith and increase their awareness of grace and service to the Church and the world. During a Via de Cristo weekend, those who have previously attended are called "The Team", and it is their responsibility to serve you in every possible way.

## When is Via de Cristo Held?

Via de Cristo of the Rockies Inaugural Weekend #1 will be held Sept. 18-21 at Highlands Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center in Allenspark, CO.

An information meeting *open to all* will be held at FCLC on Mar. 16, 2008 at 12:30 PM. Lunch will be provided. **Come and Learn More!!**

## How Can I Attend Via de Cristo?

Contact the church office, or other members of FCLC who have attended, i.e. **Pastor Dan & Cindy, Ed & Diane Broestl, Harlan & Janelle Olson, Kirk & Shea Olson, Wayne & Kaydene Hubert, Ella Lien, Margaret Greene, Ewald & Kathe Shelert, Duane & Pat Sharp, Gary & Gloria Borchert, Erin Borchert, Kevin Bachman, and Wayne Morrissey** to name a few. In total, more than 40+ members from FCLC have attended a VdC weekend.

## What Happens After The Weekend?

The weekend is only a beginning. What you learn and share during the weekend will hopefully be taken back and put into practice in your local congregation and community. You will be supported by many others who have attended a Via de Cristo before or with you. Small groups meet regularly (usually weekly) to affirm one another and to share the Christian life of Grace. These activities inspire, challenge, and encourage Christian action in homes, churches, and communities.

## How Much Does The Weekend Cost?

It is our policy to not charge pilgrims (you) for the weekend. It is a gift from God.

## May I Go with a Spouse or Friend?

Yes, we strongly recommend that spouses and friends attend a first Via de Cristo weekend together. Marriages and friendships can be strengthened and deepened by the Via de Cristo experience. Spouses and friends are also encouraged to serve on teams together.

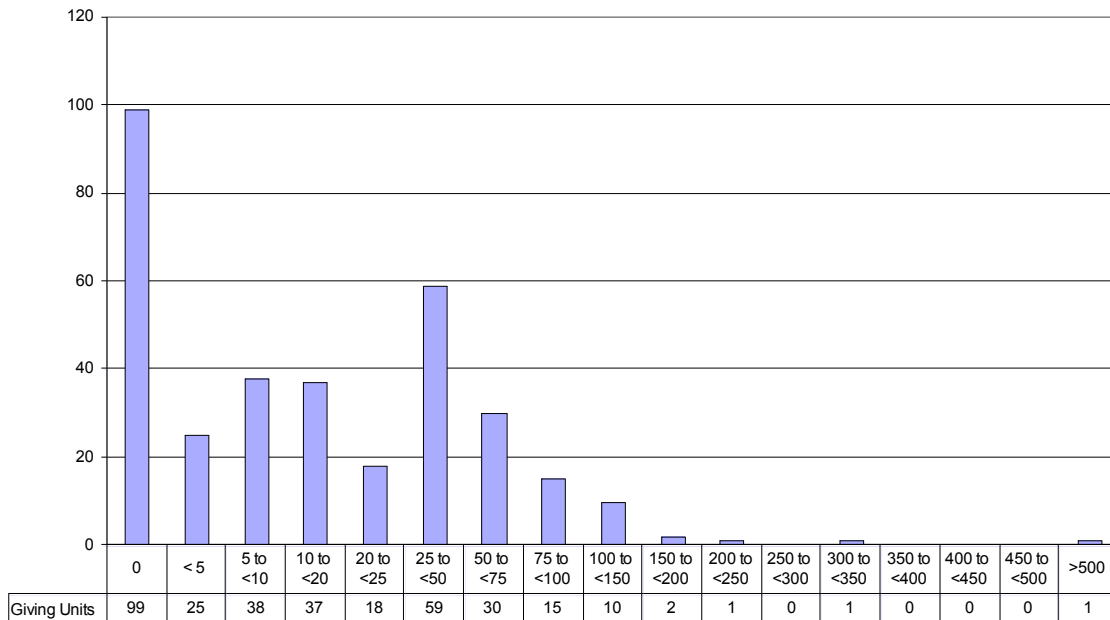
## In Summary

Not everyone who attends a Via de Cristo weekend will receive the same benefit; but all who attend will be blessed, and most will be strengthened in their desire to be a blessing in their churches and Christian communities. [www.VdCR.org](http://www.VdCR.org)



We promised more timing contribution information during the 2008 Budget Hearings. The congregation approved a 2008 budget in January where each "giving unit" would average \$45.00 per week. The chart below depicts giving through February 2008. Please prayerfully consider your current giving and how you might aid our ministry as we serve the Lord.

Number of Giving Units in each  
Weekly Giving Average Category  
through February



### **Treasurer's Report**

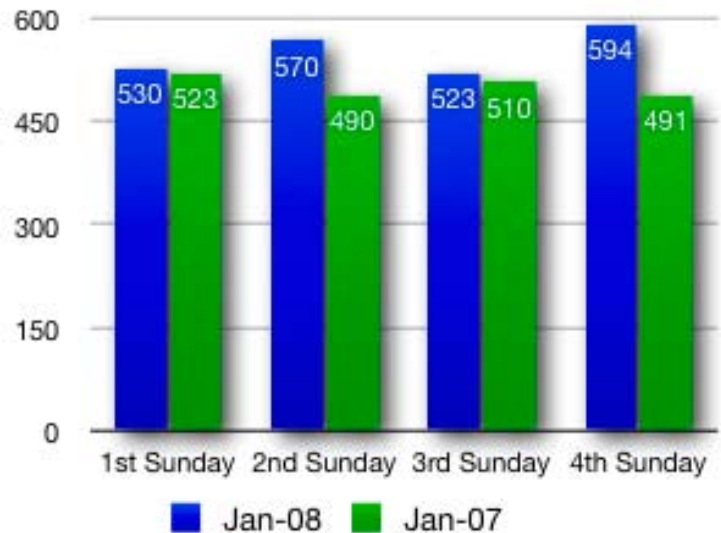
Through 1/31/2008

General Offering	\$ 40,309
Budget	\$ 67,136
\$ Over Budget	\$ (26.827)
Uses of funds	\$ (56.949)
Sources in excess of uses	\$ (16,640)

## Worship Attendance

# Attendance

	Jan-08	Jan-07
1st Sunday	530	523
2nd Sunday	570	490
3rd Sunday	523	510
4th Sunday	594	491



## Addresses for FCLC Military

SPC Smith, Eric  
Plt 3, 977<sup>th</sup> MP Co  
FOB Warrior, OIF 6-8  
APO AE 09338  
[esmith\\_4@hotmail.com](mailto:esmith_4@hotmail.com)

SGT Jonathan C. Prout  
392 Trent St  
Oceanside, CA 92058  
[jandrprout@cox.net](mailto:jandrprout@cox.net)

CPL Hartman, Aaron  
3<sup>rd</sup> PLT / H CO / 3/2 SCR  
UNIT # 43466  
APO AE 09336

Zack Morton  
NSW Nickelbase  
APO/AE 09808

LCPL Brandon J. Lockwood  
3/5 H&S Co. S2 SSP  
UIC 40380  
FPO AP 96426-0380

LCPL Nicholas Hennig NW  
2/1 Echo Company  
Weapons Plt Unit 40195  
SPO AP 96609-0195

PFC McCormick, Ian  
2-43 AMD BN, Box 536  
APO AE 09898

Mike and Lisa Smith, parents  
Jordan Smith, brother

Bill and Dianne Prout, parents  
Tom and Michelle (sister) Kramer, Anna, Rachel

Veta Hartman's grandson

Perry and Anita Willson's son-in-law

Laura Lewis, aunt and godmother

Horst and Brigitte Hennig, grandparents

Sue McCormick, grandmother  
Kelly & Mike Marshall, aunt & uncle; Nikki and Shaye Marshall, cousins  
Kim & Jeff Bonds, aunt & uncle; Megan, Mollie and Matthews, cousins

## Easter Breakfast

Come one, come all! Join us for Easter Breakfast sponsored by the FCLC Workcamp Youth. Breakfast will be served Easter morning March 23, starting at 7 am through 11:30 am. This is a fundraising event for the Workcampers. Donations will be greatly appreciated.

Contact Denise Parsons via email [parsonsd1@msn.com](mailto:parsonsd1@msn.com) or call 303-678-7290 with questions or concerns.



## Musical Drama Troupe Coming to Faith Community Lutheran

**When:** Friday, July 18, at 7:30 pm  
in the Sanctuary

**Host families needed:** If you can host a minimum of two (2) youths at your home for one night (July 18 after the performance) please mark your calendars now and let us know if you can help. We need to house 85 people! Any questions, please contact Diane Sell at the church, 303-776-8771.

**Sign up now:** Call Janelle Olson in the front office and get your name on the list.

Pastor Dan's home congregation sponsors this group and we are looking forward to their production. What a great ministry!

### Background on the Group

**SPOUDAZO** is a group of 70 teens that are excited about sharing their faith with you through a meaningful music and drama ministry. This ministry is sponsored by First Lutheran Church in Fremont, Nebr. However, it is ecumenical in nature, drawing young people from 13 churches in the Fremont area this year. This is **SPOUDAZO's** fifteenth year of music and drama ministry, which

God has blessed beyond measure. The tours of years past have taken **SPOUDAZO's** ministry from Denver to Chicago and from Duluth to San Antonio. The group has been graciously hosted by a great many churches, and warmly embraced by congregations in every tour location.

The 70 teen performers of **SPOUDAZO** are accompanied by a dedicated group of 10 college leaders, and 10 adult leaders. Auditions for the group were this week and rehearsals begin June 1 and are every Tuesday and Friday. They consist of intense practice time along with small group fellowship and Bible study.

After arriving on July 18 **SPOUDAZO's** will look something like this:

4:30 pm	Arrive at FCLC and set up
5:30 pm	Potluck dinner hosted by FCLC
6:45 pm	Warm-up and centering time
7:30 pm	Presentation in Sanctuary
9:00 pm	Host families take Youth home

### Saturday, July 19

8:30am: Drop youth off at Church and send them on their way!

**Spoudazo (spu DAH tso) v. Greek 1. Make every effort.**  
<sup>15</sup>*And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.*



God's spirit is on me. He chose me to preach the message of Good News to the poor, sent me to announce the pardon of prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the burdened and battered free, to announce, "This is God's year to act!" Luke 4:18-19

**Catch the Spirit!**

## Council Corner

### Executive Committee:

President:	Mark Praska	<a href="mailto:praskamj2@comcast.net">praskamj2@comcast.net</a>
Vice President:	Roger Olsen	<a href="mailto:olsenrb@comcast.net">olsenrb@comcast.net</a>
Secretary:	LaRae Schaff	<a href="mailto:schaffs2003@yahoo.com">schaffs2003@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer:	Craig Chaney	<a href="mailto:craig@brockcpas.com">craig@brockcpas.com</a>

### Ministry Chairs:

Christian Education	Mary Konicek	<a href="mailto:MaryLarryKids@aol.com">MaryLarryKids@aol.com</a>
Fellowship Chair	Sally Meier	<a href="mailto:sallyjmeier@yahoo.com">sallyjmeier@yahoo.com</a>
Fellowship, Asst Chair	Pam Lind	<a href="mailto:lindplindp@msn.com">lindplindp@msn.com</a>
Outreach Chair	Tami Musfeldt	<a href="mailto:tami.m@comcast.net">tami.m@comcast.net</a>
Pastoral Care Chair	Stephanie Mason	<a href="mailto:stephanielmason@gmail.com">stephanielmason@gmail.com</a>
Property Chair	Mike Brockman	<a href="mailto:msbrockman@msn.com">msbrockman@msn.com</a>
Stewardship Chair	Joel Rothe	<a href="mailto:joelrothe@comcast.net">joelrothe@comcast.net</a>
Worship & Music Chair	Miles Olson	<a href="mailto:miles@milescolson.com">miles@milescolson.com</a>
Youth Chair	Doug Inskeep	<a href="mailto:doug_inskeep@yahoo.com">doug_inskeep@yahoo.com</a>

Our Council Members and Church Staff are always available to listen to the ideas and concerns of our members. Your input is invaluable in aiding the leadership of Faith Community Lutheran in determining the direction we should go in fulfilling God's mission for us. We welcome you to take part and share your vision.

- Council minutes are public record and kept in the Church Office.
- Council meets the second Tuesday of every month at 8pm. Meetings are open to the congregation.
- If you would like to be involved in any of the ministries listed above, contact the ministry chair.

### FCLC Pastors & Staff:

<b>Pastors:</b>	Dan Hansen	<a href="mailto:dan@fclc.org">dan@fclc.org</a>
	Bruce Welander	<a href="mailto:bruce@fclc.org">bruce@fclc.org</a>

#### Staff:

Parish Associate, Ed Broestl	<a href="mailto:ed@fclc.org">ed@fclc.org</a>
Director of Education, Ministry & Calendar Scheduling, Nanette Goings	<a href="mailto:nanette@fclc.org">nanette@fclc.org</a>
Admin Assistant, Janelle Olson	<a href="mailto:janelle@fclc.org">janelle@fclc.org</a>
Interim Director of Youth Ministry, Diane Sell	<a href="mailto:diane@fclc.org">diane@fclc.org</a>
Director of Worship Teams, Diane Sell	<a href="mailto:diane@fclc.org">diane@fclc.org</a>
Director of Choirs, Dawn Hajdas, (15 hours)	<a href="mailto:dawn@fclc.org">dawn@fclc.org</a>
Director of Business Administration, Susan Moller, (12 hours)	<a href="mailto:susan@fclc.org">susan@fclc.org</a>
Nursery Coordinator, Natalie Boggess (10 hours)	<a href="mailto:natalie@fclc.org">natalie@fclc.org</a>
Director of Property & Maintenance, Bob Thoman, (10 hours)	<a href="mailto:bob@fclc.org">bob@fclc.org</a>

### Newsletter Volunteers:

Kerry Kleiman, Newsletter Proofreader/Editor	<a href="mailto:mbkerry95@yahoo.com">mbkerry95@yahoo.com</a>
Marcie Mason, Newsletter Editor/Layout:	<a href="mailto:mllmason@mindspring.com">mllmason@mindspring.com</a>
Kirk Olson, Posts Podcasts & Newsletter to <a href="http://www.fclc.org">www.fclc.org</a> website:	<a href="mailto:kirkolson@comcast.net">kirkolson@comcast.net</a>
Adam Gostenik, Newsletter Layout:	<a href="mailto:agostenik@comcast.net">agostenik@comcast.net</a>



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The mission Christ gave to all churches is to **"Go make disciples of all nations..."** Mt 28:19

## Mission Verse

God's Spirit is on me:  
He chose me to preach the  
Message of Good News to the  
poor, Sent me to announce  
pardon of prisoners and  
recovery of sight to the blind,  
To set the burdened and  
battered free, to announce,  
"This is God's year to act!"

*Luke 4:18-19*

## Our Vision

*In each of us burns a flame  
so we gather in faith and  
hope to reach out in love.*



## Our Core Values

**To "Reach Out in Love"  
as a church that is:**

- \* Bible-centered
- \* Prayer-centered
- \* Worship-centered with blended  
styles of music
- \* Kid-Friendly
- \* Visitor-Friendly
- \* A Model of the Priesthood  
of Believers
- \* A Model of "First Fruits Giving"  
(to various outreach projects)